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C R E D I B L E

Reportes from France,
and Flanders. In the moneth
of May. 1590.

*France - [Appendix] - History and Politics -
Campaigns and Battles*



L O N D O N

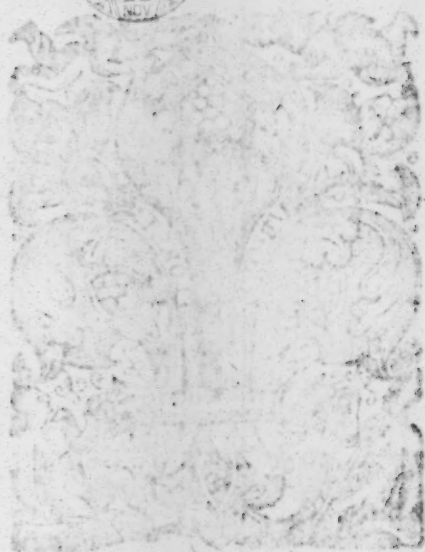
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1590.

CREDIBLE

Reported from France,

and inserted in the French



LONDON
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Credible Reportes from France, and Flanders.



Alleeke since, came from Diepe a certaine Bark the which arrived at Wylmynouth which reported, that the gonernoz of Diepe, was come to Diep after the battaile sick of an ague, and that during his sickness, the Papistes murmured, and would not suffer the exercise of Religion, conspiring to betray the towne: But the Gouvernour being certified of their ill intent, did harthe out of the towne about one hundred and twenty of them which were the authors of the conspiracy, amongst which are many of the chiefest and richest of the towne men, and many of their wives, and the gouvernour hath sealed vpon their goods.

Cressy hath bene taken by the Marshall Byron: a man of Harris was their Captaine, whose name was Pierre, for whose ransome was offered seven hundred French Crownes, but the King caused him to be hangd, and five and twentie of the Chiefest with him.

Beaumont sur Oyle hath bene taken by the Duke of Longueuille: there the Lord la Noe was hurt with a har- gabule in one of his thighs, but there is no perill: the duke of Longueuille neuertheless hath caused the chiefest men of the Citty to be hangd.

The Gouvernour of Rennes hath caused one friar to bee hangd, and halfe a dosen of the chiefest of the Citty, who did call the King hereticke.

From Flanders.

The enemy battering the Skoonce of Steeuën Berghen with great fury on the fourth of this instant, a breache being made, they had first provided a great ship to lie on the water, erecting a frame on the top of the mast propped up with other poles, where divers Muskettiers were placed to beate our men from the breache, giuing an assault also at y^e instant with the choisse men of their army, by chance fire falling from the top among certain powder lying in the shippe, spoiled them all, to the number of two hundredeth that were above and below: which the assailants seeing, partly failing of courage (but in truth by the resolution of our men) were repulsed. One other attempt was given, and in conclusion there was lost of them in this seruice eight hundredeth men, and thirteene Captaines of especiall account, so that Count Mansfield chiefe commander ther was enforced to retire with dishonour. The selfe same day, it was our happe with our troups of horse to overthrow two hundredeth of their best horse, we hauing taken some fiftie and thirty prisoners and one hundred & sixty horses, the rest being put to the sword: the enemy maketh head againe at Furnholt, as it is thought for the reliefe of Munneghen, which our men haue beleagured: the Duke of Parma continueth at Brussels full of infirmity and discontentments, the number of them all being so diuided, by reason of the continuing hatreds betweene the Spaniards and Italians, so antaided with these daily misfortunes, and so weakened by reason of many overthrowes we haue given them, as a very reasonable force here, would worke no slender effects, and without question diuert many other dangerous resolutions. Berghen by Zaan this fiftenth of May. 1590.

They

The late newes from France. **T**hey of Paris haue made a fallie, in the which they haue lost a great many of their men. The Duke de Nemours their gouernour, and brother to the Duke de Maine, assued out of Paris with them, and as it is thought is slaine. The King doth prosper in all his actions. It is saide that the King hath taken Ponarise & St. Denis. Paris is in great distresse and in desperation. Rouen is in lyke sort.

The Duke de Maine is within Peronne, with verie small hope of any great succour.

The King hath taken Gisors. The Lord Viues had besieged Pontenoy, and had already made two breaches, the one of five and twentieth paces, and the other of sixtine, and had giuen three assaults, in the which hee had bene repulsed, but hee hearing that the Earle of Torigny was comming with great force to rayle vp his siege, he retired with his mount Saint Michael, and wrote his Letters to the Duke of Brittain who was at Nantes, requiring him to come to his aide, for his honour and profit sake, or else he should be forced to yield. He that carried the Letters, came straight to the Earle of Torigny, who did see his Letters, & sent a copy of it to the Prince of Ombrs, who was betwixt Saint Maiz and Viure, and forthwith sent the messenger to the Duke of Mercurie with his Letters, who after hee had read them, did write by and by an answer to the Lord Viues, and praised him to be strong, saying, that within three dayes he would come to his aide with three thousand men, to the end that their forces being ioyned together, they might fight upon the Earle, being assured that he could not haue the helpe of the Prince, because hee knew him to be verie busie in base Brittain. The messenger came againe to the Earle, and shewed him the answer of the letters, the copies whereof were sent to the Prince, who caused all the horsemen to march in haste betwixt Nantes & the Duke, who he did know that

hee was out of Nantes, and when the Duke did knowe that he was betweene two armie; hee ventured to fight with the Prince, but whiles they were fighting, the Earle came vpon him, and the Duke was there so fore beaten, that he lost seventene Ensignes and twelue hundred of his men, who were there slaine, besides them that were taken and wounded, and hee himselfe fled to a little Castle called Chateau Iosselin, in the which he is besieged, and cannot long endure.

This Castell Iosselin is in Britaigne, and is thought to be the strongest place in the world, being a towler, builded vpon a high rocke, and almost not possible to be battered.

When the Lord Vigner understood this, he yielded, and to make his peace, hee gave to wife his daughter and onely heire, to the younger brother of the Earle Montgomery, who was his prisoner, and kept onely mount Saint Michael for the safete of his person.

The inhabitants of Dinaw, which is the strongest place of Britaigne, hearing the discomfiture of the Duke, did chase out of their Citie their gouernour, who is the Dukes brother, and did kill many of his men, amongst which was the chiefe of his Captaines called Capitaine Iean, and yielded themselves to the King.

V In the river of Bilboin, there are 41 great ships, and in the same there are 1100 great ships, and two pataches, that have bene ready six weeks since, and haue staied only for the Kings order: which was, that they should with all speed go to Saint Andrewes, there to take men, victuals, and other provision for the whole flote; and from thence presently go to Fao long, and anchor about mid night.

At Harle there are five pinnaces; of ten and twelue times a peece.

It is supposed that the Kings force will be in this action one hundred and fiftie sailes, that is, three score and ten, of foure score great ships, eight gallies, foure galliasses, and six score and ten of three score and fiftie pataches, and

pinnaces of small effect.

It is sayd also, that he hath caused to bee made certaine broad Boates, for the landing of men, which the ships shall drawe after them.

There be three thousand oares carried out of Biskay to Farole.

One hundredeth Dutch gunners are come into Spaine, to go in this fléete.

Their greatest want is Mariners and gunpowder, but they haue great store of other provision.

The chiefeest general in this fléete, is Don Iuan de Bel-sam, brother to the Marques of Saint a Cruce.

For sea Captaines of fame, there be fewe or none: but ordinarie and new found fellows are allowed.

The souldiers for this action are verie simple and unexpert in warres.

The fléete is appointed to come forth in the end of May, or about the tenth of Iune.

The report is, that this fléete shall go for Bel Ile, or for Pantz, and some saie, that it is onely to keepe their owne coast, and not for England.

There are in the Court of Spaine diuers Embassadors, one is from the Duke de Maine, another from the Duke de Mercury, and another from the Duke of Lorain, and another from the whole bodie of the League.

They demand three millions of gold, and thirty thousand men.

There came of late to the Court of Spaine, an Irish man, about forty yeares of age, as Embassador, who was well receiued, and is well thought off: but what his business is, that is not knowen.

There be sixe thousand Germans looked for in Spaine, about the end of May.

It is sayd that the king of Spaine is very sicke, and it is thought that he will hardlie escape.

F I N I S.

The Office of Saint Denis
to the King, Robert the Great
1180